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MEMO TO:

Riki Hokama, Chair

Budget and Finance Committee

FROM:

Jeffrey Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel

DATE:

February 24, 2017

SUBJECT:

AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET: EMERGENCY

FUND (BF-105)

We are in receipt of your memorandum dated February 21, 2017, requesting a response regarding whether there would be any liability issues for the County if material it provided was used by private landowners to perform unpermitted repairs within and around their property. Without specific details outlining what transpired, we are unable to advise, however we will attempt to respond in a general manner. As this was addressing an emergency situation, the first matter that our office would address is whether the "unpermitted repairs" were allowable at the time they were commenced. We would then look into what, if any, agreements were entered into with the private landowners when the materials were provided. Typically, one who provides materials would not be liable for how those materials are used, however whether any representations or assurances, verbal or written, regarding the use of the materials were given when the materials were provided, would need to be reviewed. Without these details we are unable to advise on this matter, furthermore during our review of the relevant materials we may discover different issues that would need to be addressed.

While this response does not provide a specific answer to your question we hope that it does adequately outline the process we would go through in providing advice regarding this matter.

Riki Hokama, Chair Budget and Finance Committee February 24, 2017 Page 2

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office.

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL:

PATRICK K. WONG

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2017-0093

BF-105 2017-02-24 Memo to Chair